

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A support assembly is constructed to support a part-spherical base portion of an object holding device. A cover portion cooperates with the support assembly to capture the part-spherical base portion. The object holding device also includes a mounting post which has a proximal end fixed to the part-spherical base portion and extends radially outward from the support assembly to a distal end on which to attach an object. The support assembly has a piston. Fluid pressure moves the piston member upward which applies a clamping force on the part-spherical base portion to lock the object holding device and thus the object mounted to the post. When fluid pressure is released, a spring restores the object mounting member to an unclamped position where it is freely moveable. Different embodiments employ various combinations of fluid pressure and mechanical springs to lock and unlock the device.